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| APPLICATION NO.                                                                               | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO.  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 10/686,559                                                                                    | 10/17/2003  | Shinichi Yoshimura   | 244078US3           | 8982              |
| 22850                                                                                         | 7590        | 01/06/2006           | EXAMINER            |                   |
| OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.<br>1940 DUKE STREET<br>ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 |             |                      |                     | BASTIANELLI, JOHN |
| ART UNIT                                                                                      |             | PAPER NUMBER         |                     |                   |
| 3751                                                                                          |             |                      |                     |                   |

DATE MAILED: 01/06/2006

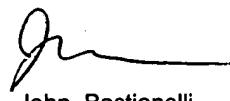
Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                                           |                        |                     |  |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Response to Rule 312 Communication</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                                           | 10/686,559             | YOSHIMURA ET AL.    |  |
|                                           | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                                           | John Bastianelli       | 3751                |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

1.  The amendment filed on 16 December 2005 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

- a)  entered.
- b)  entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.
- c)  disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.  
Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.
- d)  disapproved. See explanation below.
- e)  entered in part. See explanation below.



John Bastianelli  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 3751